

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 L-03 OES-07 DLOS-09 SSO-00
NSCE-00 INRE-00 ACDA-07 AGRE-00 AID-05 CEA-01
CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 EPG-02 COME-00 DODE-00
DOTE-00 EB-07 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FEAE-00 FMC-01
TRSE-00 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00 NSAE-00
NSC-05 NSF-01 OMB-01 PM-04 SP-02 /114 R

DRAFTED BY S/AR:AGJAMES
APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY
D:DEPUTY SECRETARY
D/LOS:FSMHODSOLL
NEA:SSOBER
L/OES:BHOXMAN

-----098104 271416Z /53

O R 271334Z JUN 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN ALGIERS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 148825

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLOS, SA

SUBJECT: MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY TO PRINCE SAUD

REF: USUN 2007

1. PLEASE DELIVER MESSAGE IN PARA 7 TO PRINCE SAUD FROM
THE SECRETARY. IT IS DESIGNED AS A FOLLOW UP TO THE
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RECENT VISIT OF CROWN PRINCE FAHD AND PRINCE SAUD TO THE
UNITED STATES, AND TO THE CONVERSTAION AMBASSADOR
RICHARDSON HAD WITH PRINCE SAUD IN RIYADH ON MAY 1.
(STATE 117024 AND MOSCOW 6105 RESPECTIVELY REPORTED
AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON.S CONVERSATION WITH PRINCE SAUD AND
CONVEYED A PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON
TO THE PRINCE.)

2. THE PRESIDENT TOUCHED ON LOS ISSUES WITH CROWN PRINCE FAHD IN A PRIVATE CONVERSATION. AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON TALKED WITH AMBASSADOR BAROODY ON JUNE 2 TO URGE BAROODY TO TAKE AN ACTIVE PART IN THE DISCUSSIONS ON SEABED ISSUES IN THE ARAB GROUP AND TO URGE ON THEM A MODERATE APPROACH TO SEABED ISSUES. BAROODY GAVE NO INDICATION THAT HE WOULD DO SO, CONTENDING THAT THE ARAB DELEGATES TO THE LOS CONFERENCE HAVE LITTLE LATITUDE AND HAVE TO SEEK GUIDANCE FROM THEIR CAPITALS ON LOS ISSUES.

BAROODY THOUGHT THE EFFORT SHOULD BE MADE IN CAPITALS AND NOT IN NEW YORK.

3. AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON THINKS THE CONFERENCE HAS REACHED A CRITICAL POINT OVER DEEP SEABED ISSUES AND THE STATUS OF THE 200-MILE ECONOMIC ZONE. (SEE WIRELESS FILE OF JUNE L3 NE NO. 9 FOR HIS PRESS CONFERENCE STATEMENT OF JUNE)3 ON THE CURRENT STATE OF THE CONFERENCE.)

4. AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON BELIEVES THAT IF THE SAUDIS COULD BE INDUCED TO TAKE A MORE ACTIVE ROLE WITHIN THE ARAB GROUP, ESPECIALLY WITH EGYPT AND KUWAIT, AND WITH THE GROUP OF 77 TO URGE A MODERATE APPROACH TO SEABED ISSUES, AS WELL AS TO SUPPORT HIGH SEAS STATUS FOR THE ECONOMIC ZONE, THIS COULD MATERIALLY HELP IN REACHING AN ACCOMMODATION OF VIEWS AT

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THE CONFERENCE. IN PARTICULAR, WE HOPE THAT A MORE OUT-SPOKEN STANCE BY THE SAUDIS WOULD HAVE A POSITIVE EFFECT ON THE EGYPTIANS, WHO HAVE BEEN GENERALLY SILENT ABOUT SEABED ISSUES, AND ON KUWAIT WHICH HAS OPPOSED THE PARALLEL SYSTEM, WHICH IN OUR VIEW IS THE ONLY REALISTIC BASIS ON WHICH A COMPROMISE SOLUTION CAN BE FOUND.

5. FURTHER, WE HOPE THAT SAUDI ACTIVISM TO ENHANCE FREEDOM OF NAVIGATION WOULD HAVE THE EFFECT OF REDUCING EGYPTIAN OPPOSITION TO ACCORDING EXPLICIT HIGH SEAS STATUS TO THE ECONOMIC ZONE.

6. ACCORDINGLY, WE WISH TO MAKE A FURTHER EFFORT TO ENGAGE THE SAUDIS MORE ACTIVELY. WE APPRECIATE BAROODY'S PENCHANT FOR RELATIVELY INDEPENDIENT ACTION AND POSSIBLE RELUCTANCE OF HIS GOVERNMENT TO SEND HIM VERY FIRM GUIDANCE. AND WE ARE SENSITIVE TO THE IMPORTANCE OF NOT APPEARING TO PRES-SURE BAROODY BY GOING AROUND HIM. NEVERTHELESS, WE HOPE THAT THE RIGHT WORD FROM PRINCE SAUD TO BAROODY MIGHT HAVE THE DESIRED EFFECT.

7. MESSAGE FOR PRINCE SAUD: BEGIN TEXT:

YOUR ROYAL HIGHNESS:

ONE IMPORTANT SUBJECT WHICH I REGRET WE DID NOT HAVE TIME TO DISCUSS WHEN YOU AND THE CROWN PRINCE PAID US THE HONOR OF VISITING WASHINGTON, IS THE LAW OF THE SEA CONFERENCE. AS YOU WILL RECALL, THE PRESIDENT AND THE CROWN PRINCE TOUCHED ON LAW OF THE SEA DURING THEIR PRIVATE MEETING.

I WOULD LIKE TO AMPLIFY MY GOVERNMENT'S VIEWS ON THE CONFERENCE WHICH, IN OUR JUDGMENT, HAS REACHED A CRITICAL POINT. THE POSITIONS OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND THOSE OF THE DEVELOPED NATIONS SEEM FAR APART ON THE ISSUE OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE RESOURCES OF THE DEEP SEABEDS. CONFIDENTIAL

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WE BELIEVE THAT RELATIVELY FEW STATES, ALGERIA, LIBYA AND KUWAIT AMONG THEM, HAVE BEEN UNDULY EFFECTIVE IN PERSUADING THE GROUP OF 77 TO TAKE EXTREME, IMPRACTICAL POSITIONS ON A NUMBER OF ISSUES RELATING TO THE SEABEDS. IF THE IMPASSE IS NOT BROKEN, THE CHANCES OF ACHIEVING A TREATY WILL BE LOST. THE CONSEQUENCE WOULD BE, AS AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON OBSERVED DURING HIS CONVERSATION WITH YOU IN MAY, THAT SAUDI ARABIA AND THE UNITED STATES WOULD NOT GAIN PROTECTION OF THEIR INTERESTS IN FREEDOM OF NAVIGATION AND PASSAGE THROUGH STRAITS WHICH OUR RESPECTIVE NATIONAL INTERESTS DEMAND. IT COULD ALSO FURTHER STRAIN NORTH-SOUTH RELATIONS IN A WAY THAT COULD BE EXPLOITED BY OTHERS.

THE CONFERENCE IS IN A DIFFICULT SITUATION REGARDING THE LEGAL STATUS OF THE ECONOMIC ZONE. THE SUPPORT OF YOUR DELEGATION FOR EFFORTS TO ENSURE FULL PROTECTION FOR HIGH SEAS STATUS OF THE ECONOMIC ZONE WOULD BE OF INESTIMABLE VALUE, AND FULLY CONSONANT WITH THE NEED TO PROTECT OUR MUTUAL LINES OF COMMUNICATION.

I THINK IT MOST IMPORTANT THAT OUR TWO COUNTRIES, WHICH HAVE SO MUCH TO GAIN FROM A REASONABLE, COMPREHENSIVE TREATY, CONTINUE TO WORK CLOSELY TO ENSURE THAT THERE IS A MODERATE, ACCEPTABLE SOLUTION OF THE DIFFICULT ISSUES INVOLVED IN THE SEABEDS, THE LEGAL STATUS OF THE ECONOMIC ZONE AND A REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION ON SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH.

AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON INFORMS ME THAT HE HAS TALKED WITH AMBASSADOR BAROODY AND LOOKS FORWARD TO WORKING WITH HIM AND THE SAUDI DELEGATION.

I WOULD LIKE TO SUGGEST THAT WE INSTRUCT OUR RESPECTIVE DELEGATIONS TO THE CONFERENCE TO CONTINUE TO WORK CLOSELY
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TO THE END THAT MODERATE SOLUTIONS MAY BE FOUND TO THE
COMPLEX ISSUES FACING THE CONFERENCE. I HOPE THAT SAUDI
ARABIA WILL EXERT ITS GREAT INFLUENCE AMONG THE ARAB GROUP,
AND MORE WIDELY AS WELL, TO COUNSEL MODERATION AND A SPIRIT
OF COMPROMISE. I WOULD BE PARTICULARLY APPRECIATIVE FOR
YOUR ADVICE AS TO HOW EGYPT AND KUWAIT MIGHT BE PERSUADED
TO TAKE POSITIONS ON THE ISSUES OF THE SEABEDS AND THE HIGH
SEAS STATUS OF THE ECONOMIC ZONE WHICH WILL FACILITATE
COMPROMISE.

YOUR COUNTRY AND MINE SHARE COMMON GOALS IN THIS IMPORTANT
CONFERENCE. I AM SURE THAT BY COOPERATING CLOSELY WE CAN
TOGETHER ADVANCE THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE AND CONTRIBUTE
TO PEACE AND STABILITY IN THE WORLD.

(COMPLIMENTARY CLOSE) C. VANCE END TEXT.

VANCE

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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TAGS: PLOS, PSDC, SA, (VANCE, CYRUS R), (SAUD, PRINCE)
To: JIDDA
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